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The Coyote Chronicle

CALIFORNIA COLLEGE MEDIA ASSOCIATION AWARD WINNER

Serving the CSUSB campus for 42 years

Monday October 27, 2008

Vol. 42 Issue 3

Coyote Spotlight



Bo Xu is one of the newest additions to CSUSB (Albert Sabaté/Chronicle).

Albert Sabaté
Staff Writer

As if getting to call their professor "Bo" isn't cool enough, students are also getting a well-traveled, empathetic soul as their new geography professor.

Dr. Xu, who prefers to be called by her first name, Bo, is originally from the province of Jilin, in northeast China.

Xu graduated from the University of Georgia in Aug. 2008. She's the newest faculty member of CSUSB's Geography & Environmental Studies Department in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

"As a child, I always wanted to be a teacher," Xu said. "My mother was an elementary school teacher."

While following in her mother's footsteps, she is enthusiastic about teaching at CSUSB.

"The description of the job really fits me," Xu said. "They wanted an economics background. I was so happy to get this job."

Before getting her Ph.D., Xu received a Masters of Science in Economic Geography in Shanghai, China. She then came to the U.S. and obtained a second master's degree from the University of Georgia as she worked simultaneously on her dissertation.

Xu plans to spend her first year focusing on her teaching before she gets involved in research.

"As a teacher, I think the most important thing is how to arouse the students' interest in the class," Xu said. "You can teach them whatever you want them to know but the most important thing is whether they really understand you or really interested in what you want them to know. I think that's the most important and the most difficult, just getting students interested."

Xu mentioned she had always studied in a semester-based system. She noted that a quarter-based system will be an added initial challenge for her work.

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Sorting through the propositions

Twelve measures to appear on the general election's ballot

Lauren Padia

Copy Editor/Staff Writer

Here's a brief rundown on each proposition to help you make informed decisions.

Proposition 1

Would allow the state to sell \$9.95 billion in bonds over a 30-year period to fund construction of a high-speed train line from San Diego to Sacramento.

Arguments for: California's transportation system is not functioning at its full potential and needs reform. High-speed trains are cheaper and more efficient than building new highways.

Chief supporters: retired Commissioner of California Highway Patrol Glen Craig and Executive Director of California Alliance for Jobs Jim Earp

Arguments against: The money would be better spent on new teachers, firefighters, or law enforcement.

Chief opponents: State Senators Hon. Tom McClintock and

Hon. Bob Dutton

Proposition 2

Would provide standards for the living quality of farm animals, require that they be given enough room to extend their limbs and be able to turn around.

Chief supporters: Wayne Pacelle, president of the Humane Society of the United States and Andrew Kimbrell, executive director of the Center for Food Safety.

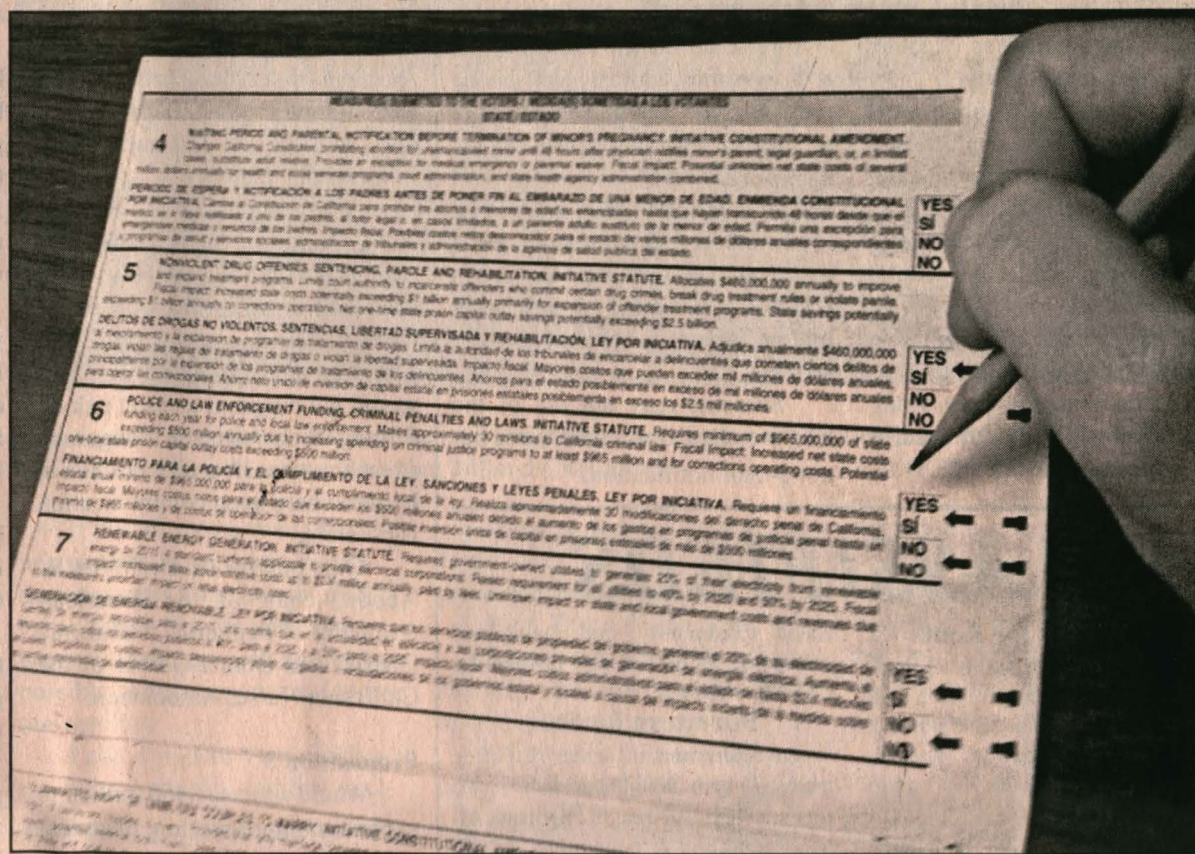
Arguments against: Proposition 2 is "unnecessary, risky and extreme" and will increase the risk of bird flu and food-borne illnesses.

Chief opponents: Dr. Craig Reed, former deputy administrator Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA and Dr. Patricia Blanchard, Ph.D., branch chief University of California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory System.

Proposition 3

Would authorize \$980 million towards construction and remodeling of children's hospitals.

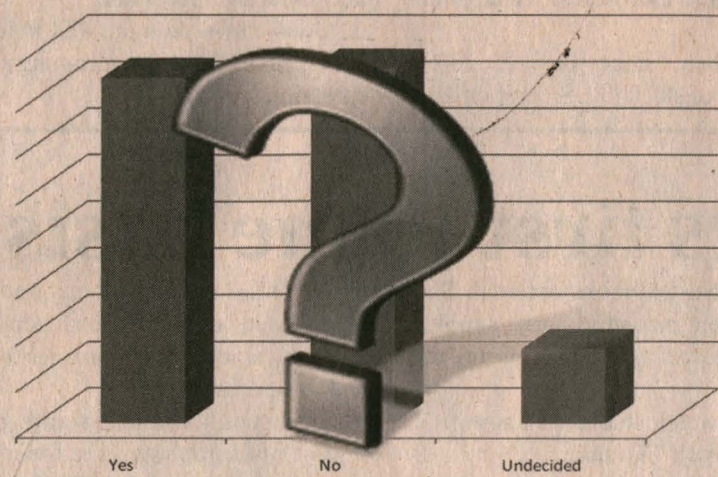
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More information on each of the twelve propositions can be found in the Official Voter Information Guide (Lauren Padia/Chronicle).

Proposition 8 polls too close to call

Official Polling Results on Prop. 8



(Michael Iannolo/Chronicle)

Michael Iannolo
Staff Writer

In the closing weeks of the campaign season, it seems that the outcome of controversial Proposition 8, a constitutional amendment that would end same-sex marriages in California, is still up in the air – depending on who you ask.

And, depending on who you ask, you might not get their true feelings.

A CBS 5 survey released Oct. 17 showed that 48 percent of the 614 likely voters polled will be voting yes on Proposition 8 come No-

vember. Of the participants polled, 45 percent said they will vote no on the issue, while 7 percent remain undecided.

This survey, conducted by SurveyUSA between Oct. 15 and Oct. 16, supports a previous report by CBS 5 released Oct. 6 – the results of which yielded that the proposition was in favor by 5 percent.

However, results released Wednesday by the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) seem to question the validity of the CBS 5 surveys.

The PPIC survey of 1,186 likely voters showed that 52 percent plan on voting no on Proposition 8.

Of the participants polled, 44 percent said they will vote yes on the issue, while 4 percent still remain undecided.

But this isn't the first time polls have disagreed on Proposition 8.

Between May 17 and Oct. 22, 10 surveys have been conducted on the proposition between four different survey groups – The Los Angeles Times/KTLA, The Field Poll, PPIC and SurveyUSA.

A poll conducted May 21-22 by The Los Angeles Times showed that 54 percent of a 705 person sample size planned on voting in favor of the proposition, while 35 percent planned on voting no on Proposition 8.

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Economist panel offers insight into financial crisis

Greg McKinley
Staff Writer

Three CSUSB Economics professors tried to shed some light on the current economic crisis that has led the stock market to record lows and over \$8 trillion in losses.

An economics panel held on Oct. 23 offered insight to students and faculty on the current economic issues.

Professors Par Asheghian, Eric Nilsson and Tom Pierce composed

the panel, moderated by Department Chair Nancy Rose.

"We decided to do this panel discussion, not because we have all the answers, but because there's so much confusion and so much

misunderstanding and so much worry about what's going on in the economy," Rose said.

Rose's introduction compared many of the similarities of the current crisis to the Great Depression and used it as an example of how we could solve our current crisis.

"I'm hoping that we can learn from the lessons of the past and apply them to the present," Rose said.

Professor Eric Nilsson spoke first about the historic trends that have led to the current economic conditions.

Nilsson stressed that real wages have stagnated after the 70s and that this stagnation helped lead to the housing bubble because many people may have seen sub prime loans as the only way they could get a house.

"What we see today is not a meteor out of the blue, there have been changes happening that are very important and they have been happening for a while," Nilsson said.

Pierce spoke second and discussed the bursting of the housing bubble, sub-prime loans and mort-

gage backed securities.

Pierce stated that the housing bubble was caused by changes in the banking structure.

Banks no longer held on to mortgages, but sold them to larger companies who repackaged them as bonds called mortgage backed securities.

Since banks no longer had to hold on to the loans, some started to loan money to people that wouldn't qualify under traditional standards.

That created the housing bubble as more buyers and speculators

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Health & Science



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Op/Ed



Prop 2 blues (Page 7)

Multi-Cultural



Global ghosts (Page 6)

Emergency notifications at the speed of technology

Garret Tedesco
Staff Writer

CSUSB will soon text message its students.

CSUSB is in the process of advancing their emergency communication and response system, which will allow students and faculty to be alerted within minutes of any type of emergency.

The Connect-ED Communication services will allow CSUSB to alert students and faculty of school closures and contingency plans because of inclement weather, issues arising from pandemics or other late-breaking developments.

According to Connect-ED Communication, campus officials will be able to reach thousands of students, faculty and staff in a matter of minutes through voice messages to home, work and cellular phones.

They will also be sent text messages to cellular phones, PDAs and other text-based devices. Traditional e-mail will still be utilized, as well as messages to TTY/TDD re-

ceiving devices for the hearing impaired.

"It's crucial that we are able to notify students, faculty and staff immediately in the event of an emergency," President Albert Karnig said. "That's increasingly more difficult, because people get their information from such a wide spectrum of sources."

Connect-ED Communication has been successfully adopted into universities around the U.S.

This type of communication has helped in such events as Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Ernesto, as well as alerts for in school shootings.

Personal identity information, such as names, addresses and phone numbers, will not be shared, sold, or leased to any companies or persons outside of CSUSB or its service providers, according to CSUSB.

Connect-ED is intended to be put into use on Oct. 24, 2008. CSUSB will use the contact information given in the MyCoyote services.

Students may opt out of the text message communication, but not e-mail notification.

CSUSB will soon text message its students.

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Chronicle Contact Information

California State University San Bernardino
University Hall, Room # UH-037
5500 University Parkway
San Bernardino, CA 92407
Office: (909) 537-5289
Advertising: (909) 537-5815
Fax: (909) 537-7585

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The Chronicle reserves the right to edit or reject all editorials submitted to the paper.

Continued:

California propositions affect many

Arguments for: The bill would allow children's hospitals access to more funds and provide the latest technologies to help sick children.

Chief supporters: parents Robin Meeks, Mindy Vazquez and Diane Gibson

Arguments against: California is deeply in debt and can't afford this project. The bill will benefit many hospital administrators financially.

Chief opponents: Lewis K. Uhler, president of the National Tax Limitation Committee and Jon Fleischman, publisher of Flashreport.org.

Proposition 4

Would amend the State Constitution to require a waiting period and parental notification before minors can get an abortion.

Arguments for: Young girls can be taken for chemical or surgical abortions by anyone. Proposition 4 will reduce unwanted pregnancy rates and sexually transmitted diseases among teens.

Chief supporters: Barbara Alby, author of California's "Megan's Law" and the Hon. Tony Rackauckas, J.D., Orange County district attorney.

Arguments against: The bill would put pregnant teens at risk by forcing them to seek dangerous street abortions. Not all teens live in homes where open communication is possible.

Chief opponents: Dr. Myles B. Abbott, chair of the American Academy of Pediatrics, California District and Donna Gerber of the California Nurses Association.

Proposition 5

Would allocate \$460 million to expand and improve drug treatment programs and limit the court's au-

thority to sentence offenders of drug crimes.

Arguments for: State prisons are overcrowded and drug offenders would be better helped through rehabilitation instead of prison.

Chief supporters: Jeanne Woodford, former warden of the San Quentin State Prison and Dr. Judith Martin, president of the California Society of Addiction Medicine.

Arguments against: Proposition 5 would shorten the parole for drug dealers and would also allow drunk drivers accused of killing innocent victims to avoid prison.

Chief opponents: Charles A. Hurley, CEO of Mothers Against Drunk Driving and Jerry Dyer, President of the California Police Chiefs Association oppose the bill.

Proposition 6

Would add \$965 million would be added to the state's annual budget for criminal justice programs and make 30 revisions to California criminal law. Sentences for gang-related crimes, vehicle theft and methamphetamine sales would increase in length.

Arguments for: Proposition 6 would fight crime and gang violence by requiring convicted gang offenders to register with law enforcement and increasing penalties for graffiti, amongst other offenses.

Chief supporters: Lee Baca, Los Angeles County Sheriff and Bonnie M. Dumanis, San Diego County district attorney.

Arguments against: Proposition 6 would increase spending on prisons and threaten funds for other important programs.

Chief opponents: Lou Paulson, president of the California Professional Firefighters and Stephan B. Walker

Proposition 7

Would require that 20 percent of electricity from government-owned utilities would come from renewable energy by 2010. Stipulates that 40 percent of the energy be renewable by 2020 and 50 percent by 2025.

Arguments for: Proposition 7 will reduce the costs of energy, limit dangers of global warming and make California one of the world's leaders in clean power technology.

Chief supporters: Dr. Donald W. Aitken, Ph.D., renewable energy scientist and Jim Gonzalez, chair of Californians for Solar and Clean Energy.

Arguments against: Proposition 7 will actually disrupt renewable power development by allowing energy prices to be locked at 10 percent above market rates.

Chief opponents: Tom Adams, board president of the California League of Conservation Voters and Teresa Casazza, president of the California Taxpayers Association.

Proposition 8

Would amend the state constitution to eliminate the right of same-sex couples to marry.

Arguments for: The bill would restore the definition of marriage, overturn the decision made by that California State Supreme Court and protect children from being taught about same-sex marriage in public schools.

Chief supporters: Ron Prentice, president of the California Family Council and Bishop George McKinney, director of the Coalition of African American Pastors.

Arguments against: The California Constitution should guarantee the same freedoms and rights to everyone because equal protection

under the law is a fundamental principle and constitutional right of all Americans.

Chief opponents: Samuel Thoron, former president of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays

Proposition 9

Would require notification of victims and input in regards to bail, pleas, sentencing and parole of convicts.

Arguments for: Proposition 9 would level the playing field by guaranteeing justice to crime victims.

Chief supporters: Marcella M. Leach, co-founder of the Justice for Homicide Victims and LaWanda Hawkins, founder of Justice for Murdered Children

Arguments against: Proposition 9 is costly, unnecessary and will exploit Californians' concern for victims.

Chief opponents: Sheila A. Bedi, executive director of the Justice Policy Institute and Allan Breed, former director of the California Department of Corrections.

Proposition 10

Would allocate \$5 billion in bonds for rebates to purchasers of alternative fuel vehicles. Will fund research for renewable energy and alternative-fuel vehicles.

Arguments for: Proposition 10 will lead us to energy independence and secure clean air and a healthier future for our children.

Chief supporters: Dr. Alan Henderson, former president of the American Cancer Society, California Division and Allison Hart, executive director of the Clean and Renewable Energy Association

Arguments against: Natural gas purveyor T. Boone Pickens paid for all of the signatures needed to put the measure on the ballot. All of the tax dollars for the bill would go towards natural-gas-powered trucks sold by T. Boone Pickens himself.

Chief opponents: Lenny Goldberg, executive director for the California Tax Reform Association and Marty Hittelman, president of the California Federation of Teachers

Proposition 11

Would create a new commission to draw up boundaries for state senate, assembly and board of equalization districts.

Arguments for: Proposition 11 would hold politicians accountable by putting voters in charge of redistricting.

Chief supporters: Teresa Casazza, president of the California Taxpayers' Association and Jeanine English, president of the AARP California.

Arguments against: Proposition 11 would allow politicians to hide behind bureaucrats. The bill is an empty promise without accountability.

Chief opponents: Martin Hittelman, president of the California Federation of Teachers and Daniel H. Lowenstein, former chair of the Fair Political Practices Commission.

Proposition 12

Would provide \$900 million in bonds to help California's veterans get home loans.

Arguments for: Passing Proposition 12 will help more veterans buy homes, thereby helping the economy.

Chief supporters: Assemblymen Greg Aghazarian and Tony Strickland

Arguments against: Proposition 12 is too vague. It stipulates that veterans must have served in time of war, rather than actually being involved in combat. The bill is too expensive for taxpayers when the terms are so ambiguous.

Chief opponents: Gary Wesley

Corrections

The last sentence of Scott Heaton's article on the Opinions and Editorials page in the Oct. 20 issue should have read, "Voting yes on Proposition 8 does not make you a bigot." We regret any confusion.

Continued:

Panel speaks on economy woes

decided to purchase homes.

Asheghian stressed the impact of the financial crisis in the markets.

Asheghian asserted that the layoffs from declining construction and downward pressure on business investment has led to the stock mar-

ket losses and decreased wealth.

"The Standard and Poor 500 experienced the largest point drop in U.S. history in February due to Sub prime mortgages," Asheghian said.

"Then, since Jan. 1, 2008, owners of stock in US corporations

have suffered about an \$8 trillion loss."

During closing statements, all panelists agreed that the U.S. is likely entering a recession.

Good news though, was that the chances of the crisis becoming a depression are slim.

Continued:

Dr. Xu prefers first-name basis

"A hundred minutes, I think, is so long, both for the students and the teacher," Xu said. "I don't think the students will absorb all of the content in this long time."

She plans to structure her class time by spending two-thirds lecturing and one-third on a complimentary exercise.

"Otherwise, they will get sleepy," Xu said with a laugh.

Xu empathizes with the burdening cost of textbooks on students. In her classes, she plans to require one textbook while making

additional textbooks optional. She plans on providing any supplements to her courses freely to students.

"I was a student. I know [it's expensive]," Xu said.

Xu currently commutes to CSUSB, but she wants to move closer to be able to participate more in activities.

Her dissertation was on the spatial temporal analysis of hemorrhagic disease of white-tailed deer in the Southeast U.S. She used data from 1980 to 2003, combined Geo-

graphic Information Systems and object-based classification techniques on remote sensing images to conduct her research.

She hopes to continue working on some of the problems she found in her research while at CSUSB.

Xu likes California. She likes the weather, the diversity and the environment.

Despite these numerous academic accomplishments, Xu still identifies closely with her students, "I ask them to call me Bo, but they still want to call me Dr. Xu."

Continued:

Inconsistent polls on Proposition 8

percent said they would vote against it, and 11 percent were still undecided.

But a survey conducted that same week by The Field Poll showed only 42 percent of a similar sample size plan on voting for the proposition, while 51 percent said they would vote against it, and 7 percent were still undecided.

The lack of consistency didn't stop there.

A September survey released by PPIC suggested an 11 percent difference between voter opinions with the majority siding against Proposition 8.

The survey also yielded 4 percent of those polled were undecided.

That same month, SurveyUSA released results of their polling which showed a much narrower deciding factor of 5 percent.

There were twice as many undecided voters polled in this study, as well.

So, why the discrepancy?

The Proposition 8 proponent group protectmarriage.com believes that the influence of political correctness may be skewing preliminary polls.

"I can't say for sure why polls almost always understate support for traditional marriage," Frank Schubert, campaign manager for protectmarriage.com and Yes on 8, said in a Sept. 18 press release. "But I believe it is because the media portrays same-sex marriage as being politically correct. Supporters of traditional marriage don't want pollsters to consider them intolerant, so they mask their true feelings on the issue."

In the September report, protectmarriage.com claims that their

findings show that many polls may be underestimating the support for Proposition 8 by as much as 7 percent.

But an analysis of polling data on election results from previous races indicates that if any such reluctance exists in regards to same-sex marriage initiatives, it is small — about 2 percent on average since 1998, according to polling analyst Patrick J. Egan of Advocate.com.

Another possible explanation for the inconsistent polling results may lie with the long trail of financial backing associated with Proposition 8.

Nearly \$37 million of political contributions have gone into campaigning for and against Proposition 8 — easily the most for any California proposition this year, according to californiareport.org.

Students survey on food

Breshone Christmas
Staff Writer

CSUSB students living on campus may want to consider stocking up on groceries for the weekends instead of relying solely on the campus food court.

While CSUSB students have become more satisfied with Sodexho Food Services, the Chronicle survey of 106 students show that the students are not fully satisfied, mostly because of limited dining hours and high prices.

Surveyed students don't feel that food services fit their college budget.

Results show that a third of the 106 students surveyed are satisfied

with the food services on campus, while the other two-thirds are not completely happy with things.

The group that comprises the two thirds of those surveyed were full-time students or student ath-

"Saturday hours should really be extended..."

letes who live on campus.

Student Union Food Court hours are reasonable for some but not all students.

Monday through Thursday, the Food Court is open from 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. On Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays the Food Court opens

at 7:30 a.m. but closes at 2 p.m.

Student Dining Commons hours are as follows: Monday through Thursday the Commons opens at 7:30 a.m. and closes at 6:30 p.m. On Friday it opens at 7:30 a.m. and closes at 2 p.m. with no operating hours listed on Saturday and Sunday. Students surveyed did not agree with the student union food court hours.

Out-of-state students are immobile and may not have other food options. With a mandatory meal plan, the residents are subject to on-campus meals.

The surveys show there isn't really a majority of students that agree or disagree that the student union food court hours should improve or not. It's noted that the stu-

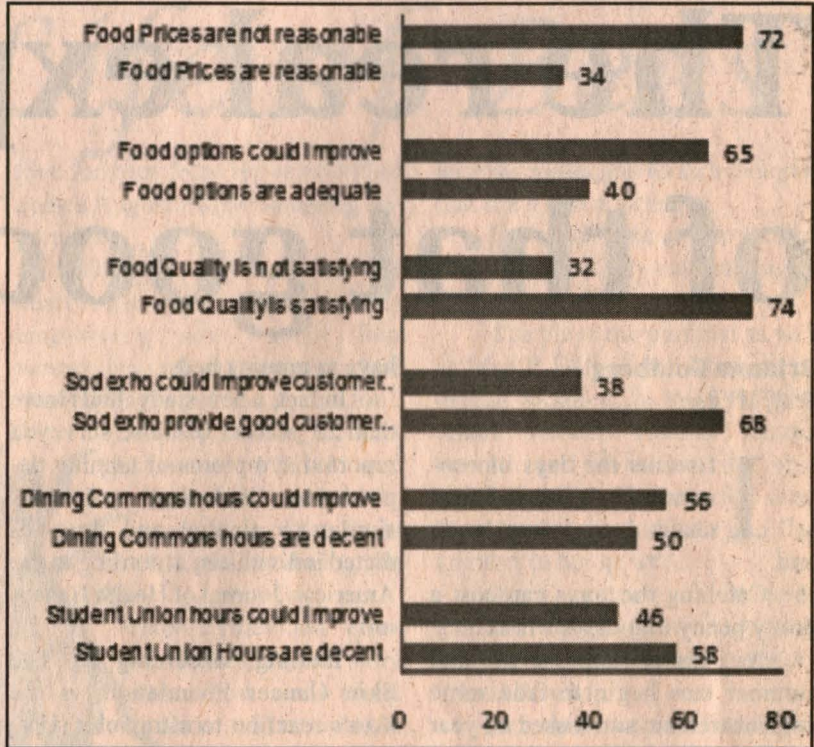
dents who do not agree with the hours are the students who live on campus and are not able to commute to another food option.

Freshman Rayven Sellers is a student athlete. Between practice, study hall and class, on campus food services are her only option.

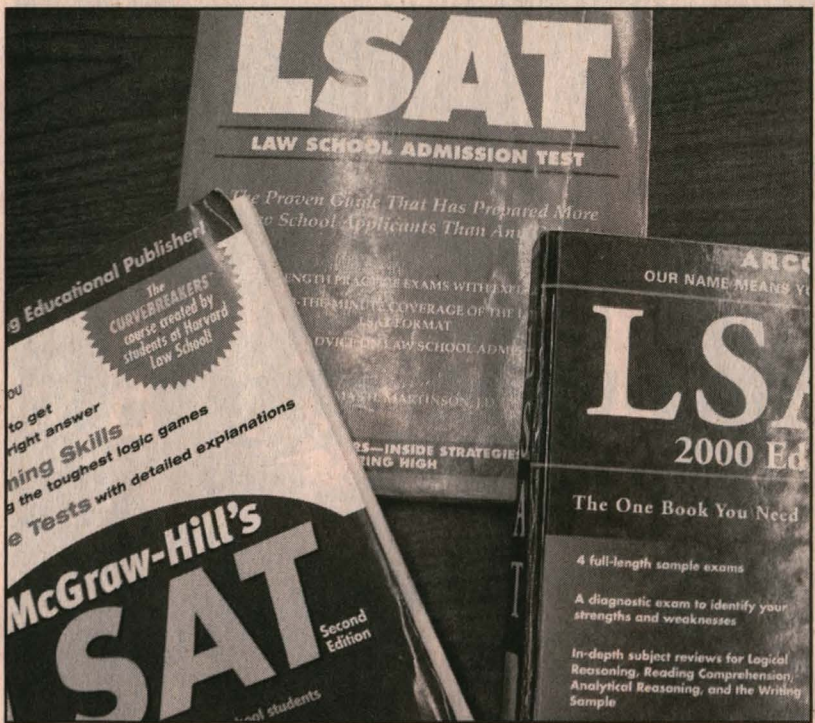
"Saturday hours should really be extended people have to eat," Sellers said.

Students continue to express concern with the prices of the dining options, prices range from \$5.99 and up for a complete meal, meaning a drink, a side and the main entree.

Food services have also created their own survey, giving students the option to suggest any changes.



Data chart made by Shantal Anderson and data provided by Breshone Christmas/ Coyote Chronicle.



Graduate examination books for Law students (Karina Amador/Chronicle).

Preparing for entrance exams

Karina Amador
Staff Writer

CSUSB students who plan on attending graduate school need to be well prepared for the entrance exam.

According to Sarah McCallister, testing officer at CSUSB, every entrance exam has different requirements so it's best to go online to find out exactly what to prepare for.

CSUSB offers more than 25 master's degree programs, the three most popular graduate programs on this campus are Education Administration, Social Work, and Public Administration. According to 2007-2008 CSUSB Bulletin, in order to

enter a graduate program under Education Administration, the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) is required.

If entering into a graduate program for Public Administration the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is required.

There was no requirements listed for Social Work, but anyone interested can go to csusb.edu/majorsDegrees/graduate/mswSocialWork/GettingStarted.aspx, for prerequisites to enter the graduate program.

The website for CBEST suggests that students study test specifications, which are listed on the site.

Practice tests are also available. McCallister states that

CBEST is a paper based exam that can be taken at CSUSB, and is given once every other Saturday.

In order for students to take the exam; they need to register with CBEST directly; no registration is offered at CSUSB.

The website for the GRE offers students preparation for the test; some free and others for a small fee.

Rogelio Gont, a senior at CSUSB, began preparing for the GRE in Winter 2008 and hopes to take the exam in Fall 2009.

"There are different books that I'm using to prepare for the GRE exam, that way I can find out now what I need more preparation on, whether it's in the writing or the math portion. Some books also offer practice questions that help

me prepare better," Gont said.

According to McCallister, the GRE is a computer based test and is not offered on campus since CSUSB does not have a computer based test center.

There are sites in the city of Redlands and Rancho Cucamonga. Students can visit www.prometric.com for more information.

Students can also go to the office of the Dean of Graduate Studies in the Administration building, room 127, for more information.

There they can find various pamphlets giving more detailed information on each graduate program. In addition, students can find out information on how they can finance their studies and attend programs abroad.

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Study abroad underutilized

Maricela Miguel
Staff Writer

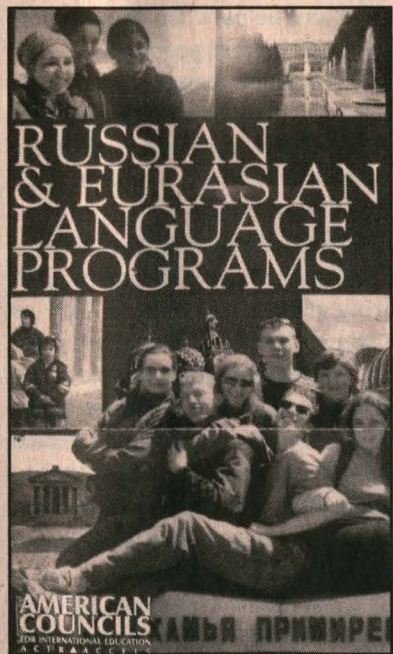
Only about 10 to 20 students will apply for a study abroad program this year according to Elanor Perry of CSUSB's International Center and International Institute (ICII).

Many students may neglect the idea of studying abroad. Some students may have concerns that studying abroad will delay the process of completion of their degree.

Money, time, family, friends and grades are some of the many concerns present in a student's mind when considering a study abroad program.

Many of these concerns would be eliminated if students were willing to learn a little bit more about what kinds of opportunities our school has to offer.

Some of the reasons why study abroad is encouraged are the opportunity to enhance your education, build your resume, understand another culture, gain a competitive edge, develop leadership skills, experience personal growth and even



Russian and Eurasian programs by the International Center (Shantal Anderson/Chronicle).



Rosalie Giachino Resident Director and Co-Director of ICII (Maricela Miguel/ Chronicle).

the opportunity to learn another language, according to Student Assistant Oscar Lopez.

Anyone who is minimally interested in studying abroad is encouraged to seek more information.

A lot of the information can be found at the ICII.

The ICII is located in University Hall 235 and has many advisers who are always willing to help and answer any questions you may have.

The advisers also organize many presentations throughout the year. You may even encounter students who have gone through both the study abroad program and application process.

The ICII recently held two study abroad workshops on Oct. 18 and Oct. 21.

The two workshops not only present how to apply for study abroad, but also how to receive funding for the programs.

Lopez gave a presentation on the application process and even shared some of his experiences in Beijing, Shanghai during his one year long stay in China.

The program offers the oppor-

tunity to select from 19 different countries. The countries include Australia, Canada, Chile, China, Denmark, France, Germany, Ghana, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan and the United Kingdom.

You may find that the schools are among the most competitive if you have any concerns about the universities located within these countries.

Some of the schools are even compared to Harvard, according to Resident Director and Co-director of CSUSB ICII, Rosalie Giachino-Baker.

The international programs offered through the California State University system are for those interested in studying abroad for one year, or full academic term.

Students are encouraged to study for one year to receive the full experience.

Financial aid is available and there are also many scholarships.

The application deadline is Feb. 1 for most countries. The deadline for Australia, New Zealand and South Africa is May 1.

The real expense of that good tan

Brianna Goldberg
Staff Writer

It seems the days of economical baby oil and lawn chairs have come to an end.

Catching the rays can cost a pretty penny in today's world.

As winter approaches and summer tans begin to fade some students remain sun-kissed all year round.

Tanning beds have been around for years, but only recently it seems everyone is participating in the trend to use them.

Having a glowing tan is now considered high importance to many college students.

Whether it is influenced by celebrities like Paris Hilton and Lindsay Lohan, who seem to have a darker shade than most even in the depths of winter, or simply based on what everyone else is doing, the tan is in.

"I love tanning because it gives me that confidence to wear skirts or shorts — things I normally wouldn't wear if I was pale," CSUSB student Rita Elias said.

"If I don't tan I feel like I'm missing something. I go almost every day, even when it's freezing outside," junior Stacy Cole said.

"Tanorexia" is a term that describes the addiction many students

have to tanning beds.

In fact, a new study finds more than 25 percent of those surveyed reported symptoms of tanning dependence, including symptoms similar to alcohol and drug-addicted individuals, according to the American Journal of Health Behavior.

Tanning, according to The Skin Cancer Foundation, is the skin's reaction to ultraviolet (UV) radiation.

When skin is exposed to UV rays, cells called melanocytes produce a brown pigment that darkens the cells of the epidermis.

What students are not thinking about is the harmful effects.

Recently, tanning beds have been linked to skin cancer in numerous studies.

Baking under the artificial lamps of tanning beds as little as

once a month can boost your risk of forms of skin cancer by 55 percent — and the danger is even greater

when done in early adulthood, according to WebMD.com.

Every year, nearly 2.3 million American teenagers visit tanning salons, according to the Skin Cancer Foundation.

The dangerous consequence is a significantly increased risk of melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer.

Some believe that tanning beds

are generally safer for you than tanning from the actual sun because the salons use UVA rays.

UVA is a carcinogen and studies have revealed that tanning salons frequently exceed "safe" UV limits, according to the Skin Cancer Foundation.

It is reported that up to 90 percent of all skin cancers are associated with UV radiation, according to the American Cancer Society.

Not only does tanning significantly increase the chance of getting skin cancer, it can also make aging happen a lot faster externally.

Both tanning salons and the sunlight will cause the skin to age, become wrinkled, sag and can cause dark spots on the skin, according to healthmad.

Pay attention to your skin type, those with very pale skin, or those who burn easily should avoid the sun and tanning beds as much as possible as they are more susceptible to skin cancer.

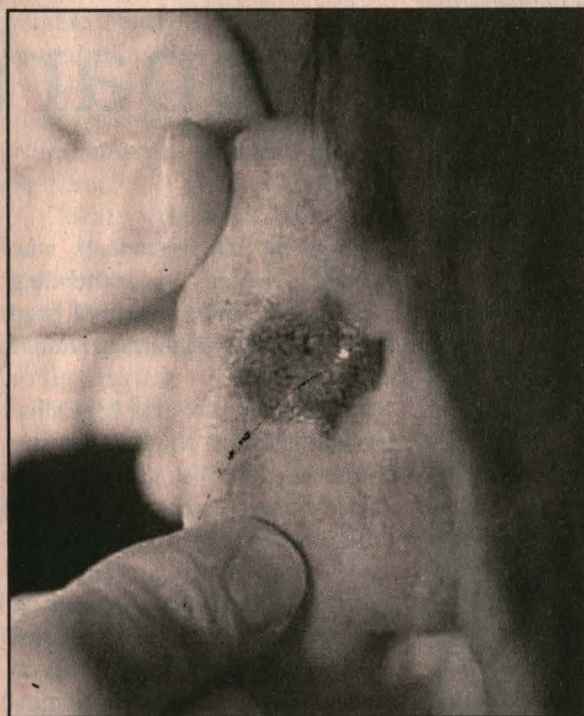
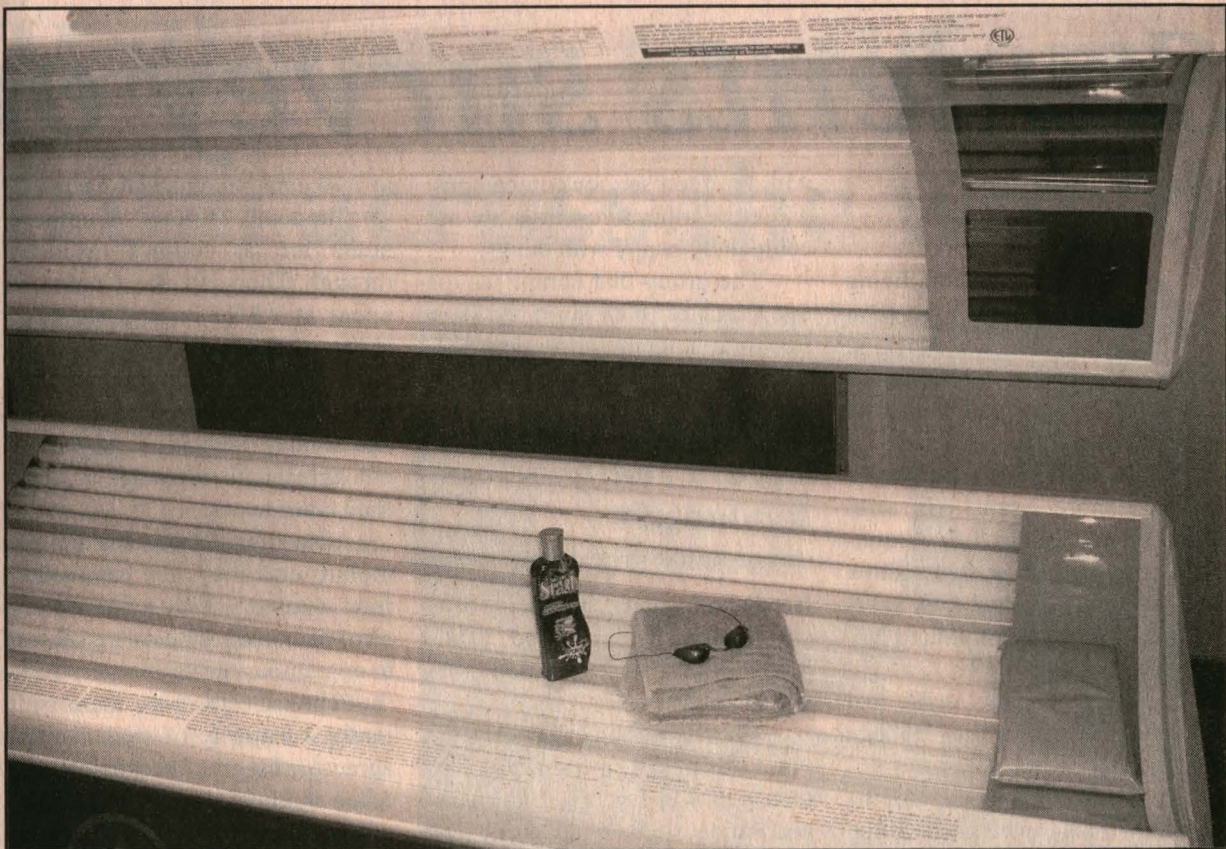
Unprotected sun exposure can cause photo aging — wrinkles, sagging skin and spots associated with sun damage, according to the Skin Cancer Foundation.

There are other options out there to get that sun-kissed glow.

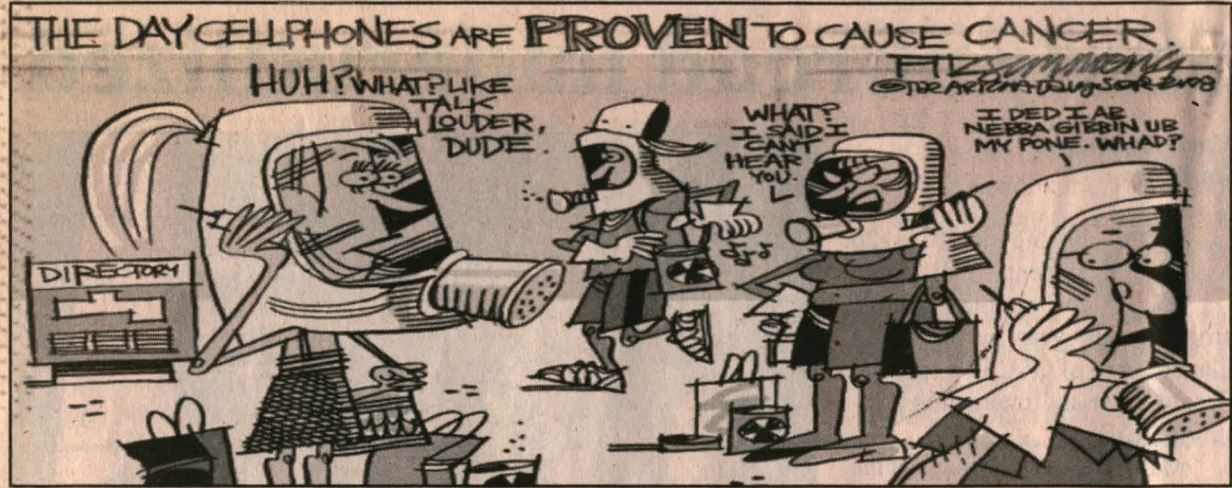
Try sunless tanning lotions, or air brushed spray-on tans.

They look just as real, cost less and most importantly, they do not cause cancer.

For more information about the dangers of tanning beds and other options visit skincancer.org.



Tanning beds are giving students more confidence, however, the consequences of melanoma may outweigh the benefits of having a nice tan (Top: Brianna Goldberg/Chronicle, Bottom: Courtesy of worldwidewounds.com).



News forms of technology may be hurting communication and health (Courtesy of caglecartoons.com).

New technologies cause more harm than good?

Katelyn Duffy
Staff Writer

Debate continues over the benefits of computer technologies.

Julia T. Wood, a communications professor and author, does not find this debate useful because technology can arguably have some benefits or none at all.

It's more useful to ask how technologies of communication shape our lives and how we want them to shape our lives, according to Wood.

"These technologies can affect our thinking," Wood said. "The tools we use to think change the ways in which we think."

One of the ways in which computer technology affects thinking is by encouraging multitasking.

"I can be in one class with my laptop, taking notes, listening to my professor, while texting my friends and messaging on Facebook," English major Mike Peterson said.

Multitasking tends to divide attention, causing performance to suffer overall.

"The habit of shifting attention moment to moment is so pervasive that Linda Stone, former Microsoft and Apple executive, defines it as a

medical condition," Wood said.

Computer technologies are also having an impact on society's interpersonal relationships.

Communication over the Internet is substantially different from face-to-face communication, according to Stanford University.

"With other mediums of communication, facial expressions, tone of voice, or the beauty of the actual writing can be analyzed," the site explained. "Whereas, with electronic communication, the meaning of messages rest only upon words."

"We as a young generation depends on technology for everything," communications major Bounkeo Arounsy said. "Cell phones and e-mails all take away from our interpersonal skills."

"I hate texting or being on the phone," Arounsy said. "I feel it's really impersonal."

Arounsy also finds it to be sometimes beneficial.

"It can be helpful," Arounsy said. "I'm a student so I find myself very confined for time. Blackboard allows me to communicate with my professors."

So many students have come to accept this technological shift in communication without a second thought.

"I'm always texting. Sometimes when I'm bored I'll send out a mass text just to talk to someone," communications major Viry Esquivel said. "Texting has become so natural that one time I was texting a guy like every day and then he called me up and I was shocked. It felt too personal."

Jennifer Garcia, a sociology major, believes that technology hurts and helps when she is interacting with other people.

"In some cases, technology brings people closer. My brother lives in New York and e-mails are the best way to get a hold of each other," Garcia said.

Technological forms of communication have the potential to bring people together as well as wedging people further apart.

Wood believes we look at the history of communication technologies, not merely to understand specific technologies but rather to grasp the broader idea that humans continuously invent new ways to communicate and connect.

We have a responsibility to make conscious, reflective choices about when and how we want to use communication technologies so that we decide their roles in our lives.

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The *Secret Life of Bees*' opened at No. 2 at the box office (Courtesy of Fox Searchlight Pictures).

The Secret Life of Bees

Justin Delos Reyes
Staff Writer

The screen adaptation of Sue Monk Kidd's popular novel, "The Secret Life of Bees," takes place in 1960s South Carolina and follows 14-year-old Lily Owens (Dakota Fanning) as she escapes the grasp of her cold-hearted father (Paul Bettany) and searches for information about her late mother.

After Lily's black caregiver Rosaleen (Jennifer Hudson) is beaten by racist white men as she attempts to become a registered voter, Lily decides to flee from her home and takes Rosaleen with her.

The best friends ultimately find themselves knocking on the door of a Pepto-Bismol-colored house located miles away from their hometown.

Lily and Rosaleen do not stumble upon the house by chance.

They get there by following Lily's intuition that the owner will have an answer for all of her questions.

The secluded home is owned by August Boatwright (Queen Latifah), a bee harvester, and her sisters May (Sophie Okonedo) and June (Alicia Keys).

May, who is both empathetic and easily overwhelmed by sadness, is the quirkiest of the sisters. She often retreats to a "wailing wall" when the weight of the world is too much for her to handle and often takes on Lily's pain.

June, on the other hand, is a political activist who questions Lily and Rosaleen's motives for entering her home.

The idea of a scraggly-haired white girl looking for a place to stay is something to be concerned about.

But unlike her activist sister, August welcomes the strangers with open arms.

She's the mother-figure that Lily never had.

August and Lily's relationship grows when Lily, who inherited a

love for bees from her mother, becomes August's honey-making apprentice.

"The Secret Life of Bees" is a heartwarming tale that offers an empowering story about four women who provide a young child with the love that she yearns for.

Director Gina Prince-Bythewood ("Love and Basketball") tackles the magnitude of racism in South Carolina during the 1960s.

Prince-Bythewood cleverly weaves it into a story about how some black and white people were able to co-exist.

Fanning is nothing short of spectacular in her role as the inquisitive Lily Owens.

She has always been a good actress, but it's clear in "The Secret Life of Bees" that she's getting better as she gets older.

Her transition from child actor to teenage actor is a little weird at first sight.

However, her on-screen pres-

ence dismisses any foolish thoughts that she's still a little girl.

The usually outspoken Latifah plays the motherly role of August almost perfectly.

She plays the part just as well as Irma P. Hall played Mother Joe, or Big Momma, in the 1997 film "Soul Food." Latifah exudes warmth and is able to not only make Fanning's character feel comfortable, but the audience can find comfort in her as well.

Oscar-nominee Okonedo gained critical acclaim for her role as Tatiana Rusesabagina in 2004's "Hotel Rwanda."

Her character in "The Secret Life of Bees" couldn't be any more different than who she played in "Hotel Rwanda," but she demonstrates her versatility in the film.

Songstresses Keys and Hudson show their versatility as they play characters who demand respect.

"The Secret Life of Bees" is great for people who want to see a sentimental flick that has enough plot twists to make their jaws drop as well.

Pink puts the fun in 'Funhouse'

Kaycie Mundt
Staff Writer

Pink continues to keep it real with her new album "Funhouse."

Her newest hit "So What" made a huge splash and is expected to be the key element for another successful album.

Her risky lyrics in "So What" makes it hard to consider another top single for the artist.

However, the single has been a hit since its radio release.

Billboard named "So What" No. 3 this week, moving up one spot from No. 4 last week.

"Funhouse" features a variety of songs that range from up-beat hyper vibes to beautifully stated ballads.

Since Pink's debut in 2000, she has been known as a fearless songwriter.

Her tell-it-like-it-is lyrics and catchy beats have done nothing but boost her fame.

"Funhouse" is expected to fur-

ther the stardom she has acquired. The record label has high hopes for the album and luckily "Funhouse" has all the elements to be a success.

The CD starts out with a catchy beat in "Ave Mary A."

This song sets the mood and shows that Pink is keeping her style similar to past records.

"So What" is a fun song that shows fans that although her personal life has been on the rocks, she wants the world to know "so what/ I'm still a rock star/ I've got my rock moves/ and I don't need you/ and guess what/ I'm having more fun/ and now that we're done/ I'm gonna show you/ tonight I'm alright."

"Please Don't Leave Me" is similar to "Who Knew" from 2006's "I'm Not Dead," with more somber tones and very detailed lyrics.

"Mean" is straight from the heart and is sure to be a chart climber after the album release.

Considering Pink's recent complicated personal life, including

a divorce from Carey Hart, her album seems to have incorporated raging love-hate songs.

Her bold style certainly comes out in "Funhouse" to let fans and critics know exactly how she is feeling.

Although Pink seems quite satisfied with "Funhouse," the song she feels strongest about is "Crystal Ball."

"I recorded it in one take and we didn't mix it," Pink said.

"It just went straight to master. It was all about a vibe and not about perfection or being polished. I just love that song and I loved recording it."

Pink considered a different title for her album, however the record label declined it because they thought a title with offensive language would dull down expected sales.

Pink finally decided on "Funhouse" because although there is a lot of break-up context, there are also fun things happening in the album as well.



Grammy award winner Pink's fifth studio album, 'Funhouse,' is in stores now (Courtesy of AOL Music).

Bad Boy's new girl: Janelle Monae



'Metropolis: The Chase Suite', a Bad Boy Records release, is now available everywhere (Courtesy of Bad Boy Entertainment).

Monae's eccentricity garners her much critical acclaim

Ja'Haan Howard-Young
Staff Writer

Janelle Monae has raised the bar on the quality of music, and has traveled above and beyond the imagination of many of today's current artists. Behind a tiny frame, Oxford shoes, and a cummerbund lays a huge voice screaming to be heard.

"With regard to the way that I dress, to the things that come out of my mouth, I'm really trying to give a different perspective," Monae said.

Monae released her debut album in 2007, "Metropolis: The Chase Suite", on co-founded independent label Wondaland Arts Society Inc.

Alongside the huge voice is a wide range of talent and a truly out of this world take on creativity. Her musical style varies from soul to rock and punk. The sci-fi album concept came from a world she created in her head when she was growing up called Metropolis. This album gives a peak into the life of Cindi Mayweather, an "Alpha Platinum 9000" android on the run in the year 2719.

The music video for "Many

Moons" is captivating and creative, showing characters that inhabit Metropolis. Viewers get a firsthand look at Cindi Mayweather, and other droids that live in this otherworldly planet. The lyrics parallel opinions and thoughts of anyone who's ever talked about the state of our lives.

The lead single, "Violet Stars Happy Hunting," kicks off the story of an android, running away because she broke the law and fell in love with a human.

The simple drum pattern and electric guitar accompaniment lays down a catchy beat that makes you move.

The background singers give the song added dramatic affects that drive the song over the edge of greatness.

This song soon caught the interest of Sean "Diddy" Combs, as it streamed over the Internet. This fortunate spark of interest landed Monae a contract on the Bad Boy record label in April 2008.

To pick any song as the best would be an insult to the rest of the CD. The whole album is very "left-field" yet innovative.

The album has only seven songs, but they have a huge impact on the reality of many young people today.

Though fans mourned the idea of Monae's creativity getting lost in

the hype of selling records, she has full creative control of her music.

Diddy had this to say about his new artist, "There is no doubt in my mind that Janelle is the kind of artist that changes the game."

Originally a five song CD, it was re-released in August 2008, with an additional two songs added. The album peaked at number two on the Billboard Top Heatseekers charts. The special edition copy of the album was limited to only 57,821 copies to honor Cindi Mayweather's android number.

Monae is to release the CD in sections called "suites."

This strategy was chosen to reintroduce the listeners time and time again to the quality of music, as not to get lost in the heap of discarded sounds.

Before creating her record label, Monae lent her vocal talent to "Letting Go" a song on Outkast member Big Boi's CD "Got Purp? Vol II." Soon after, she lent her voice again in 2006 on the soundtrack to Outkast's movie "Idlewild."

She has been compared to the likes of James Brown, Prince and Andre 3000.

Monae could be what music lovers have been waiting for. She definitely has the talent, drive, creativity and the imagination to propel her into the top spot.



Ghosts and other creepy images fill the scary stories shared by other countries (Viet Nguyen/Chronicle).

'Tis the season for global spooky, scary stories

Viet Nguyen
Staff Writer

The Jersey Devil and Bloody Mary are all familiar tales to Americans, but other cultures have spooky stories of their own.

In the Santos Manuel Student Union, a handful of students huddle around to share stories from other countries.

"At night their torso separates from their lower body and they become vampires," CSUSB student Ruby Camegla said referring to a tale from Filipino folklore.

"They're called Aswags. They're popular in the Philippines," Camegla said.

"Parents frighten their kids with the story to keep their kids in at night," Camegla said.

Mark Valesco had his own story to share with the group.

"There is this superstition in the Philippines about mounds. If you see a mound, you avoid that mound. There are these dwarves that live in there," Valesco said.

Valesco said, "If you walk over the mound you have to say you're sorry or they'll hunt you down and put a curse on you which shrinks your [genitals]."

Jenny Danh shared a story that her mother passed on to her from Vietnam.

"In Vietnam there's a lake of drowned spirits for people who regret dying...if you walked by the lake you'd get dragged in," Danh said.

One notable and lengthy tale came from Buket Dogan, a teaching assistant for the World Literature department via an email.

"The most popular subject is ghost stories. We call our evil ghosts 'CIN' in Turkish and we really don't like to pronounce their names as we think they will just stick with us the moment the name is said out loud," Dogan said.

Dogan explains that the story starts out about two lovers by the name of Ayase and Ali who have recently wed.

One night Ali disappears but Ayase has too much on her mind about her pregnancy to worry too much about Ali. Ayase lives with Ali's mother and every night they would receive strange calls. They would pick up the phone and there would be no answer. The calls persisted until the day Ayase had to give birth. Ali was still not around. The townspeople came to support Ayase.

"Then they heard the loud cry of the baby, but all of a sudden all the women screamed. They looked at the baby's face and it was definitely not human. It was a CIN covered with blood," Dogan said.

"Everybody was so terrified and could not even get near the child and all of a sudden Ali appeared in the corner of the room, reached out to the creature with blood laying on the bed and held it up high," Dogan said. "All of a sudden, he changed to a cin himself which looked like the devil."

The cin had turned himself into the image of Ali and impregnated Ayase with its child. Meanwhile Ali had been in Germany working the entire time. He had tried to call his wife and mother every night but the calls never got through. A letter was sent to the family the day of the birth that the real Ali died of a disease, believed to be the curse from the CIN.

"CINs can fall in love, so you have to be careful all the time and you shouldn't say their names out loud or get into any contact with them. Once you have contacted them, the love of a cin can be so tremendous that he will do anything to keep you away from the ones you love," Dogan said.

Halloween traditions from across the world

Yaneth Hoil
Staff Writer

Americans are expected to spend an estimated total of \$5.77 billion on Halloween in 2008, according to the National Retail Federation.

CSUSB will contribute to this spending with their upcoming Halloween activities.

Halloween has European and Celtic traditions that date back to a time of fear and food shortage.

It was believed that on Halloween the deceased would return to earth as ghosts and people would disguise themselves to avoid being recognized by the returning spirits.

As a result, food offerings were placed outside the homes to appease the spirits, according to history.com.

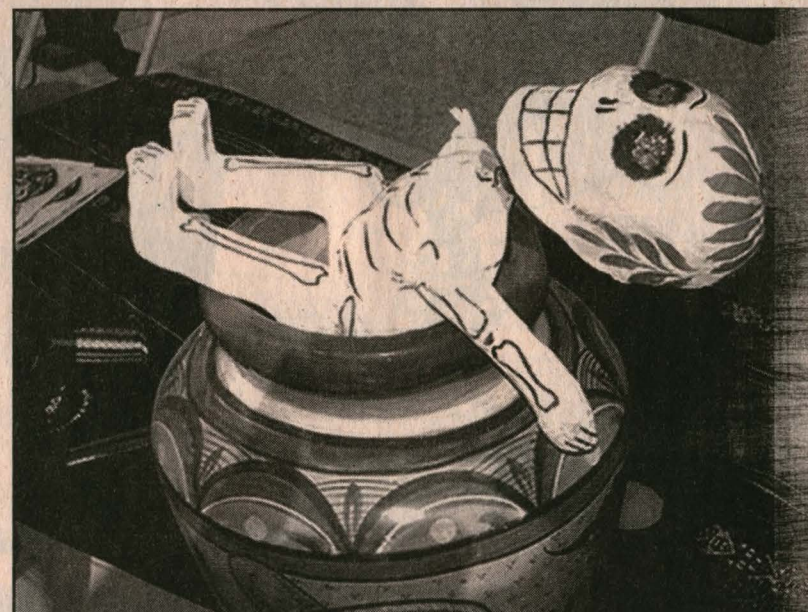
Today, trick-or-treaters celebrate Halloween in the United States by dressing up and asking for candy, while those too old for trick-or-treating typically celebrate with costume parties.

Halloween also occurs in other parts of the world. Like the United Kingdom, which celebrates Halloween and used to call it "All Hallows Eve."

Ireland and Canada have Halloween celebrations similar to the United States.

Mexico, Latin America and Spain celebrate the Día de los Muertos, or "Day of the Dead," during Oct. 31-Nov. 2.

The Cross Cultural Center and the department of World Languages



Artwork such as the skeleton figurine are typical decoration for tables during Dia de los Muertos (Courtesy of Carlos Flores).

will host the Día de los Muertos festivity on Thurs., Oct. 30 at the Lower Commons.

Día de los Muertos has been celebrated at CSUSB for the past 15 years, according to Spanish professor Daniel S. Whitaker.

"The purpose of the Día de los Muertos event is to remember those who have died, but are still alive in our memories, and thus not forgotten," Whitaker said.

There will be free food and an Aztec dance group will provide part of the entertainment.

A tour of the "Ofrenda" tables will be offered at noon.

"Ofrendas are tables that are specially prepared to honor the loved ones that are no longer with us," Whitaker said.

The Spanish 318 class will present a traditional Ofrenda in honor of the Mexican revolutionary Emiliano Zapata.

The Ofrenda and its items are meant to guide and show appreciation towards the returning spirits.

Items like coins, water, candles and food are placed in the offerings.

Candles left on the ofrenda are believed to lead the spirits back to earth while the food will thank them for their return.

"The celebration of El Día de los Muertos at CSUSB allows all friends and families from any cultural background to participate in a Mexican holiday that reflects both that country's indigenous past as well as European traditions," Whitaker said.

Latin-style dance workshop offered by dance group

Chris Alsina
Staff Writer

Salsa is not just for nachos. It is also a fiery, sexy dance that gets the body moving and looking good.

CSUSB is filled with many cultures that can be found around the world.

One of the largest is that composed of a Latin background.

One way that Latin heritage is celebrated at CSUSB is the "LOBOS" Salsa Workshop.

"LOBOS stands for Lovers of 'Bachata', or Salsa," Alycia Marengo, one of the founders of the workshop said.

"We originally started at the University of Riverside and we asked CSUSB if we could provide a Salsa Workshop here because of the high Latino background," Marengo said. "Sure enough, we've been putting on LOBOS every quarter for the last full year."

LOBOS also has workshops in schools such as Riverside Community College and CSU Long Beach.

The LOBOS Salsa Workshop is held every Monday night from 8-10 p.m. in HP 104, and is free and open to CSUSB students as well as

their friends and family.

The workshop is broken down into two different hours.

The first hour is teaching the students the basics of steps and coordination.

The second hour focuses on what they are taught in the first hour and making "combo dances" with a partner.

Students interested in practicing what they have learned typically stay after class for "free dance."

"We all love to dance and it's our passion for Latin culture to dance and to do it well."

Salsa dancing is an infusion of informal dance styles having roots in the Caribbean, especially that of Cuban and Puerto Rican. African

drum rhythms and Spanish guitar evolved into a variety of Latin American music according to www.dancedancedance.com.

On Mon., Oct. 20, HP 104 was filled with loud rhythmic Salsa music and around 30 people of all nationalities practicing steps they had learned.

Teaching the workshops is professional Salsa dancer Marcy Quintanilla.

Dancing for over eight years, Quintanilla started dancing in a club while attending UCR and quickly went professional.

"We want to teach people who might feel uncomfortable going out to night clubs that coming here to learn and be in a relaxed environment can be beneficial," said Cesar Escobar.

Escobar is one of the co-founders of the LOBOS Salsa workshops and works with Quintanilla on professional promotions.

"[Quintanilla] has a very unique dancing style and takes the three major styles, Salsa, Merengue, and Bachata, and implements them into her teaching," Marengo said.

"We all love to dance and it's our passion for Latin culture to dance and to do it well," Marengo said.

"So when we teach it to people of other cultures we teach it with love and emotion," Marengo said.

The LOBOS Salsa Workshop is also a place where magic happens from Marengo's perspective.

Marengo also said that in the first quarter that the workshop opened there was a couple who met in the class and now a year later will soon marry.

"We love to see something like that happen because through our dancing and our culture people can meet and have new friends for the rest of their lives," Marengo said.

For more information on LOBOS salsa workshops, call (909) 537-3008.

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Let's spend some time in their cages

Elena Martinez
Staff Writer

So there's this new Proposition on the ballot in November; it's called Proposition 2. Proposition 2 is the Prevention of Farm Animal Cruelty Act.

OK. I know you guys are California cool and don't really think about farms all that much.

Since our generation is apparently the "me" generation, I'm going to give you a little perspective on this proposition.

Let me ask you to take a little ride with me to a parallel place...

You are a student in this parallel place, a school just like ours, and I'm a lowly opinion writer for the school newspaper.

As such, I'd like to introduce

you to Prop 2, the Prevention of Student Cruelty Act. This is important stuff!

If you don't vote yes on this proposition, we will see an increase, and in many places continuance, of extreme cruelty toward the college student population.

If Prop 2 is not passed, you will see some horrible things happening around here. First of all, you think that carrying 16 units and being in class all day long is bad?

Well, you'll soon be on campus 24/7!

Sure that may be OK for some of us who have no social lives. After all, our campus is big, green and pretty.

But things will be much different. The university has decided that it needs more students if it's

going to pay those water bills that keep our lawns so lush.

So, enrollment's going up, space is going down.

Instead of strolling from class to class, you'll be assigned one room and professors will rotate in and out to lecture you.

Think there will be breaks to hit the student union or commons for lunch? Nope, the same food will be dropped across student desks day in and day out and the cost will be deducted from your account whether you like it or not (OK, so that's not too different from eating at the commons now).

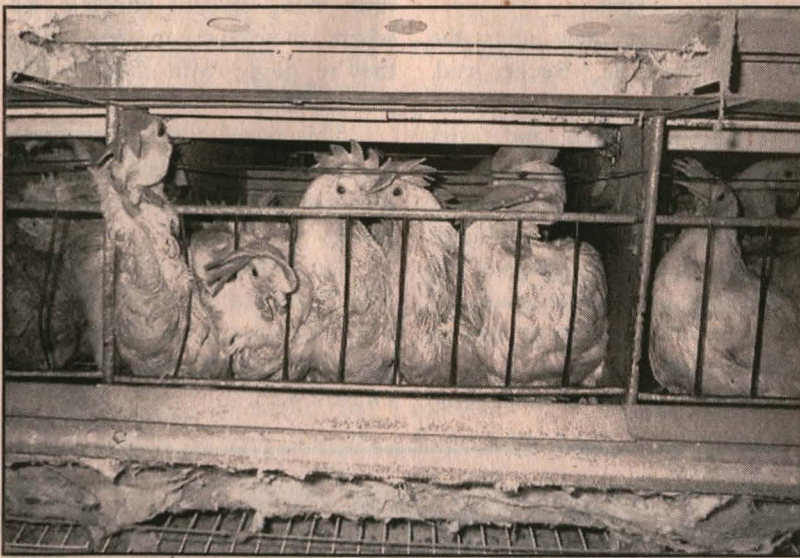
Anyway, speaking of desks, you'd better get used to yours. Since each classroom and auditorium on campus will be crammed with as many students as possible to enhance university funds, no one will have room to actually get out of their chairs.

Don't worry though, the university has thought of everything.

A couple of times a day janitors will come and clear out any, er...leavings that may have accumulated underneath you. They assure me it's all very sanitary.

Just be ready to get a little stiff. Not only will you not be able to stand, but there will be absolutely no room to turn from side to side, turn completely around or stretch out your arms.

University officials have told me this should have absolutely no effect on your ability to produce large amounts of excellent essays and assignments.



Treatment of chickens must improve (Courtesy of ibabuzz.com).



If passed, Proposition 2 will end the cruel housing practices for egg-laying hens and other animals in California (Elena Martinez and Ken Dillard/Chronicle).

If this all seems even mildly unappealing to you, then you understand what I've been thinking. It just seems like the university wants to make as much money as possible, without even considering our comfort.

I asked student Victoria Garcia about it and she said that without Prop 2, conditions are "gross and disgusting."

She then added, "and passing Prop. 2 will really be good for organic farmers."

Wait. Farmers? Oh, yeah.

Sometimes when I drink too much Monster I get a little hyped up and lost in my metaphors.

Well you get the point, everything I described is exactly what will continue to happen to many very unhappy animals if Prop 2 is

not passed.

Just toss in chicken or calf wherever I mentioned student and instead of the university, it's the big business factory farms that are campaigning against Prop 2.

Anyway, vote yes on Prop 2. If you wouldn't enjoy the above described torture, no chicken, piglet or any other living creature would either.

Biased news sways votes



Fox News and MSNBC are both filled with bias and try to sway voters (Courtesy of caglecartoons.com).

Burton DeVoyaji
Staff Writer

Television news is not objective, though most claim to be. Fox News and MSNBC are both filled with bias.

The travesty is that both channels' slogans lead viewers to believe they are watching objective programming.

"Fair and Balanced" is Fox News' motto, though they are markedly conservative.

"A Fuller Spectrum of News" is MSNBC's slogan although their bias is liberal.

Vivian B. Martin, journalist for Scientific American wrote on the findings of Tim Groeling, a political scientist at the University of California, Los Angeles.

According to Groeling's finding, which span from 1997 to 2008, news networks tend to have biases.

MSNBC was 35 percent less likely to report a drop in approval ratings for former President Bill Clinton, according to Groeling.

MSNBC was also 33 percent

more likely to show a drop in President Bush's approval.

Alternatively, Groeling found that Fox News was 67 percent less likely to report a raise in approval for Clinton in the 90s, and also less likely to report a drop in approval for Bush.

MSNBC's Keith Olbermann did a report on a crude joke Sen. John McCain allegedly told in 1986.

"John McCain does not outright deny he told a joke in 1986 about a woman who enjoyed being raped by a gorilla." Olbermann said. The footage can be found on YouTube.

Fox News's bias is conservative. Liz Trotta talked about "killing" Sen. Barack Obama while on a Fox News program.

"And now we have, um, what some are reading as a suggestion that somebody knock off uh-O-Osama, uh, um, Obama, well both if we could," Trotta said.

MSNBC targeted a more liberal audience while Fox was aimed at a more conservative crowd, according to Goens.

"If you want to know the net-

works that do the best job of being unbiased, look at the ratings - they'll be near the bottom.

"People watch news programs that tend to think the way they do," Goens said.

Jim Rutenberg, journalist for the New York Times, has said that MSNBC and Fox News have resorted to people jabbing at each other.

Eric Burns, journalist and former host of Fox News Watch, criticized MSNBC's partisan views.

He said that "Countdown with Keith Olbermann" had become a "crusade" against the Bush Administration.

This is effective since people tend to watch the views of those they agree with.

It makes sense for both Fox News and MSNBC to show stories that fit their respective agendas.

However, to be so misleading about their objectives is what tarnishes the name of objective news coverage.

With the presidential election so close at hand, the news that Fox or MSNBC decides to air may sway voters on their position.

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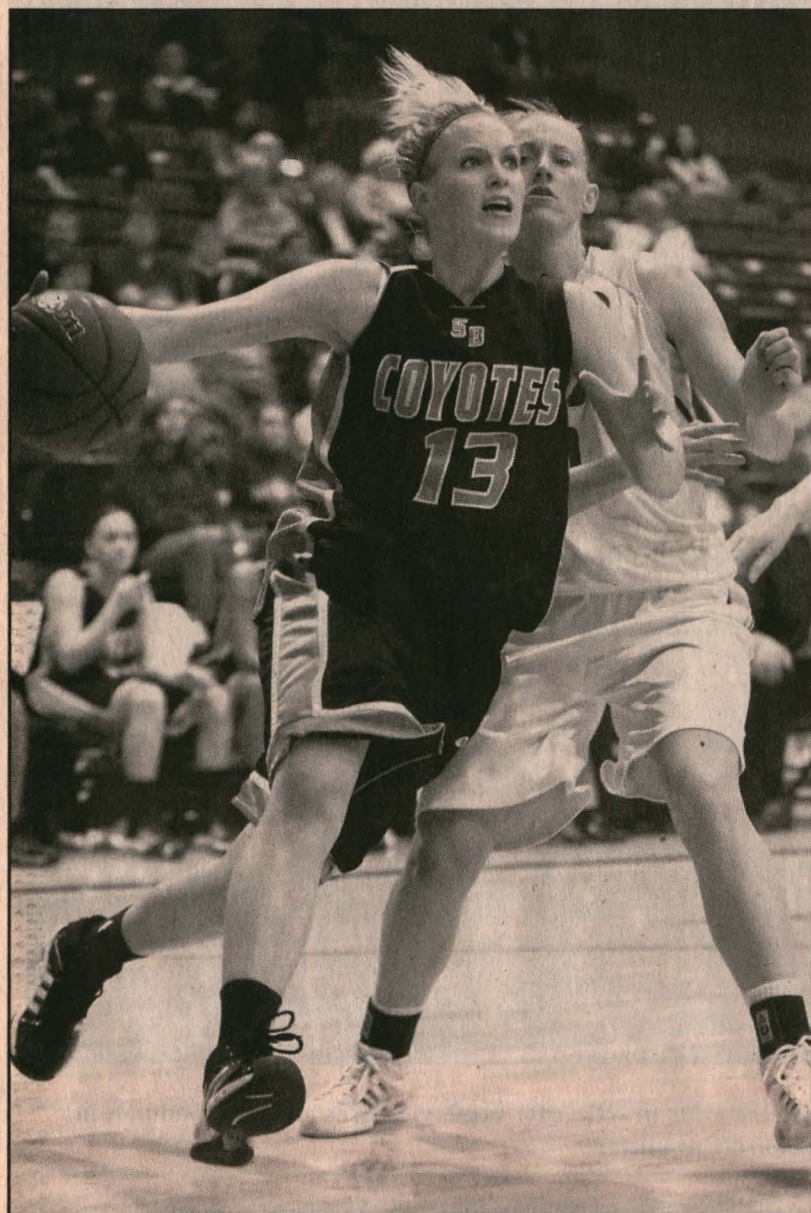
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Senior forward Rachel Johnson recently injured her leg and is uncertain if she will play this season (Courtesy of Robert Whitehead).

'Yotes need to adjust after losing key players

Danniella Erickson
Staff Writer

Two injuries to key players have already put a damper on the CSUSB women's basketball team and the season has not yet started. "That presents a challenge you never even thought was going to happen. With [the injuries] we don't have a lot of experience, but we do have some decent talent," head coach Kevin Becker said.

He said the team takes its challenges one day at a time. They try to focus on what they have rather than what they don't have.

Last year's All-American Vanessa Wilt was lost to graduation and a chance to play professional basketball in the Netherlands.

"Vanessa was a unique kid in what she could do," Becker said. "She could dominate a game from the inside and she was a high scorer."

Becker said losing her also cre-

ates a challenge for the athletes, but he thinks they have brought in some talent to replace her.

Nine new players were brought to the team of 16. Two of the players on the roster are injured and probably will not play.

"We have enough returners, but only a few have extensive playing time," Becker said.

The team's leading three-point shooter, senior forward Rachel Johnson, went down with a leg injury before the first practice.

Becker is not sure if she will be able to play this year.

"She was kind of the glue that would hold the team together," Becker said.

Freshman Emily Vore is a forward and will replace Johnson. She does not have any college experience.

"She shows signs of progress

so far, but there's a difference between a freshmen playing and a senior," Becker said.

Guard transfer from UC Santa Barbara, Anna Onaindi, is also out with a leg injury.

The Coyotes expect a slow start with the adjustment between the re-

turning and new players. According to Becker, this year's girls pick things up quicker than previous teams.

"The quicker they adjust the better off we'll be," Becker said. "We've got some talent. We're a bit more athletic, quicker and faster than we were last year, and that should help with the inexperience."

Becker said the athletes demonstrate a strong grasp of the game. They are knowledgeable of the sport, and they know how to play the game.

"They'll probably need some

time to step up to figure out what is going on and what the expectations are," Becker explained.

Becker said the girls are going to play more up-tempo than they have in previous years.

The players shoot a lot of threes and usually play "really aggressive hard-nosed defense."

This will be Becker's 13th season with the Coyotes, but his 27th season coaching altogether. He was a college head coach at age 23.

"I love working with the kids. Watching them grow and mature into young student athletes, see where they end up, and what they're doing with their lives," Becker said.

This coach loves basketball, but his reward is seeing where his girls end up after they're done competing.

An exhibition game against UNLV will start the season on Nov. 8. The Coyotes' first regular season game is at home against Dixie State on Nov. 15.

Expectations high for men's golf team

Chris Baker
Staff Writer

The Coyote golf team expects big things this coming season.

"We want to win another Regional Championship and place top five at the NCAA tournament," coach Thomas Mainez Jr. said.

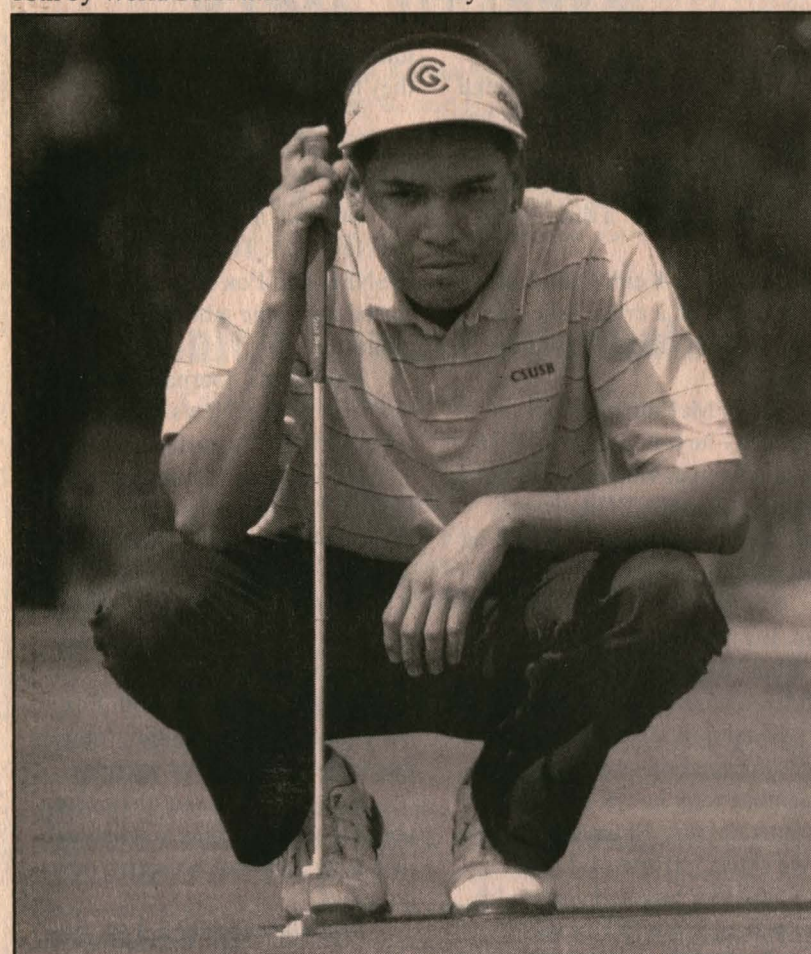
Mainez is in his third consecutive year as head coach.

"I believe this is just the team to get us there," Mainez said.

Senior Micah Burke's ambitions are a little more straight forward.

"We are eying the National Championship, that is the ultimate goal," Burke said.

The team is currently ranked in the NCAA Division II top-25 nationally, 10th by golfstat.com and 18th by WorldGolf/Nike.



Gene Webster Jr. placed second at the Grand Canyon University Fall Invitational Tournament (Courtesy of Robert Whitehead).

"I think [the polls] are an indicator of what talent is out there, but I would rather finish strong or win at the NCAAAs," Mainez said.

This preseason the team has lived up to the lofty rankings.

The 'Yotes, led by second place finisher Gene Webster Jr., won the Grand Canyon University Fall Invitational after finishing 12th in 2007.

The team remained strong, placing second at the Interwest Wildcat Classic in Chico.

But even with the two brilliant outings, Mainez isn't satisfied.

"We were hoping to two-peat in Chico," Mainez said.

"But the team is getting better with each tournament, so we are excited about the championship segment," Mainez said.

If the team is to reach its goals, they will need to lean on their re-

turning stars.

Last season CSUSB boasted two All-CCAA golfers with Burke and Webster. In addition to their successful upperclassmen, the 'Yotes will insert a talented newcomer, Kenny Pigman, into an already gifted lineup.

"[Burke and Webster] will be setting the bar for scoring along with Kenny Pigman, a top player/recruit," Mainez said.

"Gene has no weaknesses," Burke said. "He's well rounded and that helps him to be consistent."

"I rely on the putter, that's my game," Burke said.

The team, however, will need to rely on each other in order to succeed.

"Golf is a unique sport in that each player plays individually, but in the end there is a team result," Mainez said.

"This is the best team we've had since I've been here," Burke said.

"We have a solid four guys and a fifth that can step up and contribute," Burke said.

While the team hopes to finish well in the NCAAAs, Mainez understands that each golfer has a unique set of expectations.

"I think every individual that is playing has different goals," Mainez said. "If they focus on attaining those goals we should be fine."

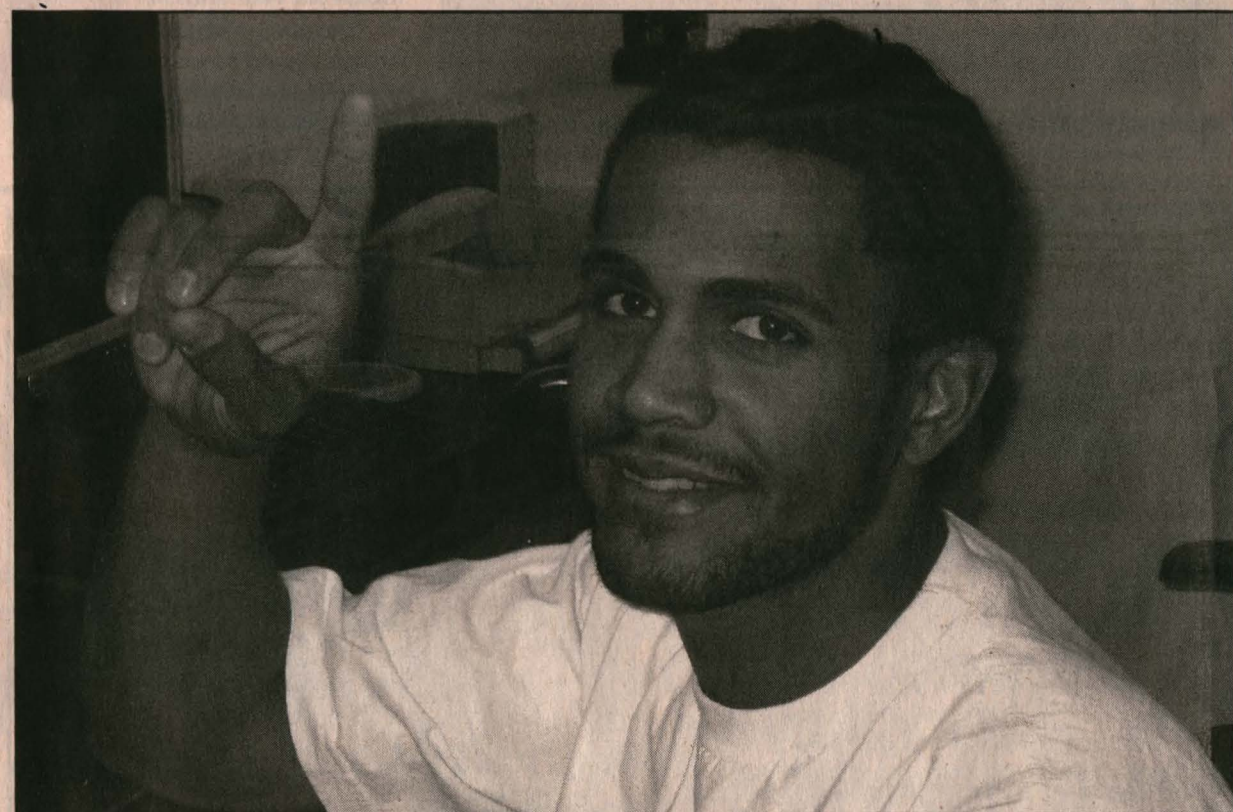
The next challenge for the Coyotes will be the Cal State Northridge Invitational which is the last tournament of the preseason.

The championship segment of the golf season doesn't begin until Feb. 8, 2009, but the team's approach remains the same.

"Any time you're in the winner's circle, it's nice," Burke said.

But the winner's circle that they're truly aiming to be in is the NCAAAs.

However, Burke insists that the team wants to take it one tournament at a time.



Senior forward Philip Jones takes a break from his schoolwork (Jon Ross Alexander/ Chronicle).

Natural born leader

Jon Ross Alexander
Staff Writer

Philip Jones was forced to grow up faster than he expected. When his parents divorced, the responsibility of being the man of the house fell on his shoulders.

The senior forward/guard from San Diego is one of four returners for the Coyote men's basketball team.

He intends to show how being the man of the house from an early age made him a strong person and a strong competitor.

"By stepping into such a big role at a young age, it taught me responsibility and leadership and I exhibit that on the court," Jones said.

"I set an example for my younger teammates along with the other older players and that helps our team stay together."

The Mass Communications major is a second year player.

He previously played at Irvine Valley College and Fullerton Community College before coming to CSUSB.

During his tenure at Fullerton Community College, his team went

37-0 and won the Community College basketball championship.

"It was one of the most rewarding experiences I've ever had, but I knew I always wanted more. I wanted to win more championships," Jones said.

When it came time to choose the place that was right for him, he wanted to go to a place where he knew he could be a winner that led him to CSUSB.

"I decided to come to CSUSB because of the vision I have," Jones said.

"I envisioned myself being a part of something great. They were an amazing program that has had much success. And it doesn't hurt that we play in a pretty big arena as well."

With the cloudy days behind him, he became a member of the men's basketball team last year.

His first season wasn't his greatest, but he brought something more than just points and rebounds.

"I did a lot more than just shoot the ball and grab boards," Jones said. "I helped keep the team

morale up. I helped encourage them and we succeeded."

Last year, the Coyotes won a share of the CCAA title with Humboldt State.

"Well, we weren't undefeated, but it felt good to win the championship," Jones said. "Nobody can take that away from us."

The Coyotes' season came to an end earlier than many had anticipated, however.

They were eliminated in the 1st round of the CCAA Championship tournament by Cal Poly Pomona.

"It hurt us really bad. But it gave us something to look forward to for the next season," Jones said. "We knew that we had to work harder than we had in the past to get to where we hope to get."

The Coyotes are predicted to win the conference this year.

But Jones doesn't like to get into predicting too much.

"I don't like to predict the future, but I do know that we will go pretty far this season. Why break tradition?"

"I envisioned myself being a part of something great."